

October 17, 1997

Huntington

East Valley Hospital

An affiliate of Southern California Healthcare Systems

Andra Zach
Health Policy & Planning Division
Office of Statewide Health
Planning & Development
Health Policy & Planning Division
1600 9th St., Room 350
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Zach:

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the "California Hospital Outcomes Report on Heart Attacks - 1991-93." I would like to note that the hospital's name, during 1991-1993, was Glendora Community Hospital. In April 1995, the hospital changed ownership and went from a for-profit to a not-for-profit status. Since then the hospital has undergone many changes in administration, medical staff, management and nursing leadership.

We have reviewed the data, and like many other acute care hospitals, take care of many patients with "Do Not Resuscitate" orders. And, as you indicate in your report, DNR status is not currently in the California data base. Additionally, we have identified coding difficulties during that time period that suggest that risk factors may not have been appropriately noted.

Huntington East Valley Hospital has been reviewing patients admitted with chest pain, as part of our quality initiatives. We have made many changes consistent with current standards of care, including prescribing aspirin and beta blockers, as appropriate upon discharge and instituted new laboratory tests to more accurately identify the presence of myocardial infarction. We were one of the first hospitals in the San Gabriel Valley to initiate this technology. Additionally, as part of our being certified as a member of the Emergency Heart Care Program of the American Heart Association (1996-1998), we are continuously reviewing our patient care outcomes.

Again, we appreciate being able to respond to this study.

Sincerely,



June Levine, RN, MSN, CNA
Vice President, Operations/Nursing

JL:tm

150 West Alost Avenue • Glendora, CA 91740-6207

(818) 335-0231 • Fax (818) 335-5082